

Pulman's View from Crewkerne

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Strong interest in second phase of superfast broadband roll-out

INTEREST in tendering for the second phase of the Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) Superfast Broadband programme is strong.

By Anders Larsson
anders@pemedial.co.uk

will start early next year, and more than 30 telecoms companies attended a pre-tender gathering. Phase two of the CDS programme will take su-

perfast broadband coverage to at least 95 percent.

The event brought together a range of telecoms suppliers and sparked conversations about phase two of the superfast broadband rollout scheme.

Delegates were offered an opportunity to gain a thorough understanding of the project, ahead of the formal invitation to tender in early 2016.

A CDS spokesperson said: "The high-levels of attendance at this event demonstrates growing commercial interest for phase two of the CDS programme and increasing competition in the UK broadband market."

Digital Economy Minister Ed Vaizey commented: "The digital landscape of Devon and Somerset is going through a remarkable change and we have already taken superfast speeds to an additional 200,000 properties."

Great ambitions

"The next phase of our rollout will see us reach many thousands more homes and businesses in Devon and Somerset and this event has brought all interested parties together to consider the different technical solutions that can help us do this."

Matthew Hare, chief executive of Gigaclear, added: "It's great to see a local project group with such great ambitions to service homes and businesses in their footprint."

"It's also interesting to see how CDS look at opportunities for private investment in super-fast services."

Chris Dawes, head of business development at

Airwave, said: "The event articulated the aspirations of CDS and laid out the challenge to the market."

"Everyone now knows that delivering the last 10 per cent will need high levels of flexibility and innovation – technically, commercially and financially."

"The day was a great opportunity to explore the art of the possible with other potential players."

Councillor David Hall, Somerset County Council's Cabinet member for Business, Inward Investment and Policy commented: "The telecoms companies who attended the event seized the opportunity to gain clarification about the project before the formal invitation to tender is issued."

"The government were also extremely supportive of the event, which will prove an important factor in the success of phase two of the project."

"Meanwhile, phase one continues, with the rollout remaining on target and on budget."

Councils across Devon and Somerset are working together to bring faster broadband to the area.

The CDS programme covers Devon County Council, Somerset County Council, Bath and North East Somerset Council, Plymouth City Council, Torbay Council, and North Somerset Council areas.

For more information, visit www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk



■ A DINOSAUR puppet is attending Toddler Time at Crewkerne Library. The puppet was a Christmas gift to the library from Friends of Crewkerne Library (FOCAL) to make Toddler Time even more exciting. FOCAL member Catherine Maver said: "Hopefully, more mums and dads will bring their children to the library to hear the dinosaur roar." The dinosaur is photographed on the shoulder of library assistant Lynne Cook.



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View 2

The ultimate leisure guide for East Devon & South Somerset

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- Abba's Angels
- Edison Herbert
- The Producers
- Axminster Drama Club
- That 70s Band
- Plus listings and more!

SEE PAGES 15-17



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



CHARD: Briana Barand (11), from Chard & District Swimming Club, won the Top Girl award at the West Dorset Christmas Meet with numerous qualifying times and three gold medals



ILMINSTER: MP Marcus Fysh is campaigning against the closure of the Barclays Bank branch in the town and has announced the setting up of a petition



AXMINSTER: 'Lollipop' man David Swift has organised a petition to keep the crossing at St Mary's School, gaining hundreds of signatures



HONITON: Father helped Christmas Honiton and District Lions Club celebrate raising more than £10,000 this year for local causes

New Year's Eve Legion gala has been cancelled

A NEW Year's Eve ball in Kilminster has been cancelled because of poor ticket sales.

The ball should have been held at Cranberries Luxury Hideaway, with all proceeds to be shared by military charities the Royal British Legion and Help For Heroes. But the cancellation was announced on Monday December 21st.

Cdr Stafford Seward OBE RN, who is the chairman of the Kilminster RBL branch, said: "Despite fantastic support from local businesses, a lack of ticket sales has left the organisers with no other choice but to cancel."

Quotes of the week...

“There is no doubt the funding formula was a shambles. There was no element of the proposed formula that was fit for purpose.”

Tony Hogg, Devon and Cornwall's Police and Crime Commissioner, after his office exposed serious errors in police funding calculations, saving the force £15 million next year alone

“If you are looking to a new addition for your family, maybe consider sponsorship of an animal as a Christmas gift and look at adoption once you are back into your usual routine.”

Nikki Haddock of Ferne Animal Sanctuary, near Chard, as the centre prepares for the annual influx of unwanted pets after Christmas

“You used to get soaked waiting for the bus up here.”

Carole Hale of Underleys in Beer, where passengers are enjoying a new bus shelter provided by the parish council

FEATURES

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■ **LOCAL SERVICES:** Page 18-25

■ **MOTORS:** Pages 26-29

■ **SPORT:** Pages 30-32

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Bullet will be looking for a new home in the new year! Until then, Happy Christmas from us all!

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TOP STORIES FROM ACROSS EAST DEVON AND SOUTH SOMERSET

FARWAY Campaigners vow to save village school

CAMPAIGNERS, made up of parents and concerned residents, have vowed to help secure the long term future of Farway Church of England Primary School.

The campaign, which is supported by local MP Neil Parish, Devon county councillor Sara Randall Johnson and Honiton mayor Councillor Caroline Kolek, comes after the future of the school was thrown into doubt as pupil numbers dropped, due to there being fewer primary school-aged children in the catchment area and no plans for affordable local housing meaning fewer young families living in the area.

Now the local community is banding together to find a way to ensure that Farway Primary School, based between Honiton and Colyton, is sustainable now and for future generations.

Councillor Kolek, a teacher herself, said she was a firm believer in rural schools, like Farway and the particular opportunities they offer.

In a letter of support to parents, staff and governors, she said: "Whilst there is no potential planning being proposed in Farway, I am of the understanding that there could be further development in and on the outskirts of Honiton which could potentially put undue pressure on the two primary schools in Honiton.

The letter was read out at a packed public meeting, attended by pupils, parents, teachers and governors. The meeting heard how the school had been in the village for over 100 years and was an "outstanding example" of a rural school.

Alix Hamilton, services and outreach co-ordinator at Honiton and Axe Valley Children's Centres, said: "Farway School is a valuable resource for our local families."

OTTERY ST MARY Developers hit back on Slade Farm plans

BLUE Cedar Homes, the group behind the failed Slade Farm application, has reiterated its commitment to providing specialist retirement and affordable homes in Ottery St Mary.

Blue Cedar are still considering whether or not to appeal following EDDC's decision to decline an outline application, which would have seen up to 26 new affordable homes in the town.

The application, for land off Slade Farm Road, was for up to 52 homes, a proportion of which would be open market age-restricted for the over 55s.

A Blue Cedar spokesman said: "Many people seem to have been left with the impression that there was no commitment on our part to providing affordable homes, or making contributions towards education, open spaces, and the environment."

Blue Cedar Homes statement finished: "East Devon's population is growing older, and house prices in the district are among the least affordable in the South West.

"Our development off Slade Road would provide homes for both the active retired and those who would otherwise be priced out of living in their home town, as well as many thousands of pounds of investment in local infrastructure and the community."

From the editor's chair The perfect solution...



THERE will be a collective sigh of relief in Seaton that peace has broken out over the ownership of the Town Hall, which is now secured for the future.

Common sense has prevailed and all the interested parties have agreed to a way forward.

East Devon councillor Ian Thomas, who holds the Finance Portfolio at Knowle, brokered the deal which sees the freehold of the hall transferred from EDDC to Seaton Town Council.

The council has agreed to move their offices out of the Town Hall to Marshlands in Harbour Road, formerly owned by the county council, which they have acquired, and a long lease on the Town Hall (with the exception of the part occupied by Seaton Museum) will be given to Seaton's Voice to continue running as an entertainment centre and a venue for community groups.

It would seem to be the perfect solution and Cllr Thomas is to be congratulated for getting the parties together and thrashing out an

agreement which will see the Town Hall remaining as the social and community centre of Seaton.

Cllr Thomas has been quick to recognise that the deal has only been possible by the co-operation of all sides. This is good news for Seaton.

Seaton's Voice has done an excellent job in bringing some fabulous entertainment to the town, increasing its profile. Seaton's excellent museum will continue to occupy the building and the town council will end up with office accommodation more in keeping with its current requirement.

● And so another year draws to a close. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking our readers and advertisers for their continued support during 2015 and we look forward to bringing you all the news from *Pulman's Country* in 2016.

Happy Christmas to one and all!

PHILIP EVANS

AXMINSTER Setting out vision for Axminster's future

THE Axminster public broadly agrees with Axminster Community Enterprise's (ACE) vision for the town.

ACE officials came to this conclusion after initial analysis of replies to the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire.

Questionnaires were delivered to each household in the parish (about 3,000) and 416 replies were received.

As part of the questionnaire, ACE set out a main vision each for Housing, Environment, Town Centre, Economy and Community Infrastructure.

Each of the visions gained approval from more than 300 respondents.

The analysis is not complete, though, as replies to a detailed, separate sub-section for each vision as well as a comments section remain.

Commenting on the number of replies, town councillor and ACE member Graham Godbeer said: "It is about the right response for any public consultation."

His fellow town councillor and ACE member Andrew Moulding echoed his thoughts, and added: "If people are in favour we can move forward."

HONITON £20,000 stolen from auctioneers

SILVER and jewellery worth £20,000 has been stolen from Chilcots auctioneers in Honiton.

The burglary took place in the early hours of Friday, December 4th, and investigating officer DC Steve Harrington said two offenders dressed in boiler suits and wearing balaclavas forced the door of the Silver Street saleroom open.

After cutting a hole through the inner metal security cage, one man stood lookout outside while the other stole items from the display cabinets and also forced open the interior safe to steal its contents. Although CCTV shows the offence, the alarm did not activate.

Descriptions and images of the stolen items are available from Honiton CID. A total of 136 lots are thought to have been taken: mostly silver, gold coins, jewellery and watches which were scheduled to be sold the following day (Saturday, December 5th).

SOUTH SOMERSET Strong interest in superfast broadband

INTEREST in tendering for the second phase of the Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) Superfast Broadband programme is strong.

Tendering for the next phase of the programme will start early next year, and more than 30 telecoms companies attended a pre-tender gathering.

Phase two of the CDS programme will take superfast broadband coverage to at least 95 percent.

The event brought together a range of telecoms suppliers and sparked conversations about phase two of the superfast broadband rollout scheme.

Delegates were offered an opportunity to gain a thorough understanding of the project, ahead of the formal invitation to tender in early 2016.

Digital Economy Minister Ed Vaizey commented: "The digital landscape of Devon and Somerset is going through a remarkable change and we have already taken superfast speeds to an additional 200,000 properties.

The CDS programme covers Devon County Council, Somerset County Council, Bath and North East Somerset Council, Plymouth City Council, Torbay Council, and North Somerset Council areas.

Cheque for festive lunch

AXMINSTER Phoenix Ladies Club have made a contribution to the Axminster Churches Together Christmas lunch at All Saints' Church Village Hall.

Treasurer Julia Walter and chairman, Lesley Frankau presented a £150 cheque to Paul Hayward, who is helping to organise the event.

The lunch is being organised for people living on their own in Axminster and the surrounding area and is being widely supported by local organisations and volunteers alike.

It will be held on Christmas Day, and transport can be organised.

Information and booking are also available by phoning Lesley on 01297 33420 or emailing lfrankau@btinternet.com

SEATON Future of town hall is secured

A DEAL that will secure long-term public ownership of Seaton Town Hall has been agreed in principle.

East Devon District Council, Seaton Town Council, Seaton's Voice and Seaton Museum have reached an agreement in principle, which will secure a long-term future for the venue as a public building, beneficial to the local community.

The agreement is based on the transfer of the Freehold interest of Seaton Town Hall from East Devon District Council to Seaton Town Council, without charge.

Seaton Town Council will concurrently agree a long lease on the Town Hall to Seaton's Voice, excluding the current area occupied by the museum.

This will secure the future of the Gateway Entertainment Venue and the use of the hall by community groups.

Seaton Town Council will then relocate from Seaton Town Hall to Marshlands.

Cllr Ian Thomas, Portfolio Holder for Finance at EDDC, concluded: "We now have a solution which I am confident can work well for all concerned.

"Most importantly it can secure a sustainable long-term future for Seaton Town Hall in the community.

SIDMOUTH Battle over parking on pavements

SIDMOUTH and Sidford county councillor Stuart Hughes has reiterated that he will continue to pursue efforts for parking enforcement officers to be granted more powers to deal with obstructive parking.

The efforts come after the House of Commons withdrew a motion for a bill to end parking on pavements.

At a Devon County Council meeting on December 10th, Cllr Hughes expressed his disappointment on behalf of the council at the decision.

Cllr Hughes said: "It's extremely disappointing that this opportunity has been missed. North Dorset MP Simon Hoare, who was the sponsor of the Private Members' Bill presented compelling evidence in favour of the bill.

"He cited research which shows that 70 per cent of those who are blind have, in the past months, collided with a car parked on a pavement, and that 32 per cent feel less confident about going out."

Powers to deal with obstruction of pavement currently rest with the police. In September and October DCC received 68 complaints regarding parking on pavements.



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MP to campaign against closure of Ilminster bank

by Anders Larsson
anders@pemedial.co.uk

MP Marcus Fysh is setting up a petition against the closure of the Barclays Bank branch in Ilminster.

Barclays has announced the branch will close on March 18th, but the Conservative MP (pictured) says it is a short-sighted decision and will seek a meeting with bank bosses.

He said: "I believe the intended closure to be short-sighted and not of benefit to the residents of Ilminster."

"Development within our market towns is continuing and, in particular, Ilminster is a thriving community – the closure of services should not be an option."

"I will be personally meeting with the branch and management team to discuss the planned closure."

"A petition will be sent out to constituents in Ilminster."

Precise details about how to access the petition will be announced in due course.

Mark Hatchliffe, community leader for Barclays Somerset, explained the decision by saying: "The way customers undertake their banking is changing as people increasingly use online, telephone and mobile devices."

"We must therefore evolve the shape and size of our branch network in response to changing customer behaviour."

"At Barclays Ilminster our records show a low and falling level of transactions and 25 per cent of our customers now regularly use alternative branches, which is why we have taken the difficult decision to close the branch. This figure is even higher for business customers."

"Our colleagues at the Barclays Ilminster branch have been consulted about the change and will be relocated to alternative branches nearby."



"We hope that the availability of branches at Chard and Crewkerne and access to services at the local Post Office at East Street, Ilminster, along with our range of digital channels will help to ease the transition for our customers as we move out of Ilminster branch."

We do not take the decision to close any branch lightly and we are committed to adhering to the new UK Government protocol on branch closures."

"All of our customers will receive a letter, posters will be displayed in branch and colleagues will be on hand to assist customers with any concerns they may have."

"We will be proactively engaging with local businesses and the wider community to discuss the alternative ways customers will be able to undertake their banking locally, before the branch closes on Friday March 18th."

Holyrood gets festive with Christmas jumpers



■ STAFF and sixth form from Holyrood Academy in Chard held a Christmas jumper day as part of the national Text Santa campaign in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, Save the Children and Make a Wish Foundation, which raised a total of £70. A spokesperson said: "It was a super start to the last week of term with plenty of fun and a lot of smiling. Many jumpers were borrowed so size was an issue for some – usually sleeves that were very long or a rather snug-fitting jumper for the day!" Two teachers entered into a forfeit if their football team lost on the previous Saturday... they had to wear the jumper the other one supplied for them! Although it was a little small, the forfeit was paid and the 'loser' wore it all day."

If you have a story for South Somerset, call Anders Larsson on 01297 446142 or email anders@pemedial.co.uk

Panel confirms new Chief Constable

THE appointment of the new Chief Constable for Avon and Somerset Constabulary, Andy Marsh, was approved last week by the Police and Crime Panel.

Andy Marsh, the former Chief Constable of Hampshire Constabulary, was put forward by Police and Crime Commissioner Sue Mountstevens as her preferred candidate following a rigorous two-day interview process.

His appointment was confirmed by a Police and Crime Panel last week.

Ms Mountstevens said: "I am delighted that the Police and Crime Panel agree that Andy is the best person to lead Avon and Somerset Constabulary.

"Andy knows and understands the communities he serves. His passion for Avon and Somerset, its people and its police force shows and I'm pleased that this has also been recognised by the panel.

"As Chief Constable Andy has a clear grasp on both the challenges that today's police service faces as well as the opportunities it can bring through collaboration and stronger relationships with our partners.

"I look forward to working with him on delivering the policing priorities for the people of Avon and Somerset."

Mr Marsh added: "It's a great privilege to be formally appointed as the next Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset.

"It's been an honour to serve as the Chief Constable of Hampshire Constabulary and I'm extremely proud of what we achieved together during my time there.

"Looking forward, I'm very excited at the prospect of working with the excellent officers, staff and volunteers of Avon and Somerset Constabulary. It's the force I first joined in 1987 and I'm thrilled to be returning as Chief Constable to help build on the excellent work that's taken place



■ **NEW POSITION:** Police and Crime Commissioner Sue Mountstevens with new Chief Constable Andy Marsh

in the intervening period since I left.

"Partnership with our communities and other service providers is an equally critical factor in successfully tackling crime, and increasingly so as the nature of that crime becomes more complex. Spending time with partner agencies and visiting communities across the force will be one of my early priorities."

Chairman of the Police and Crime Panel, Councillor Nigel Ashton, said: "The panel was impressed by Mr Marsh both at the stakeholder event last week, as part of the interview process and at today's lengthy confirmation hearing. The panel was impressed by his comprehensive, hands-on experience and believe he is an excellent appointment."

The panel heard about Mr Marsh's policing experience which begun in Avon and Somerset in

1987 as well as asking questions about his time as Chief Constable in Hampshire and his achievements in improving public confidence.

Mr Marsh is an experienced chief officer who has held senior posts in Avon and Somerset, Wiltshire and Hampshire. As well as being a former area commander of South Bristol and East Somerset he also has operational and detective experience. He is also the national lead for a number of areas of policing including IT procurement and body-worn video cameras.

Mr Marsh is due to take up his role on Monday, February 1st. In the meantime temporary Chief Constable Gareth Morgan, who stepped in after former Chief Constable Nick Gargan was asked to resign following misconduct charges, will continue to lead the force until Mr Marsh starts.

Apply online for parking permits

MOTORISTS who need to apply for, or renew, a resident parking permit can now do so online.

Somerset County Council has recently introduced an online service to make the application process much simpler.

Previously applicants had to request or print a paper form, fill in the details and post it back. They also had to physically send in various documents such as proof of residency and vehicle ownership. Now all forms can be uploaded online.

Councillor David Fothergill, Somerset County Council's Cabinet member for highways and transport, said: "We know the previous method was outdated and time-consuming, and I'm pleased we've been able to listen to feedback and simplify the process.

"Now it just takes a few minutes and you will receive your permit when approved, usually within a couple of days."

The new online system covers residential parking schemes in Taunton, Yeovil and Minehead, and will be expanded as new resident parking areas are agreed.

Somerset County Council has worked with its parking contractor NSL to introduce this service as part of the existing contract and there is no additional cost to taxpayers.

Residents without access to the internet can still apply by post in the usual way by calling 0333 999 8889 and requesting a form.

To apply for a parking permit online, visit the website www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-transport/parking/parking-permits/



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Lord Ashdown inspires students with talk at Holyrood Academy



■ GUEST SPEAKER: Karen Seib, Jacob Whitefield, Martin Brook, Phoebe Wilson and Lord Paddy Ashdown

SIXTH form students from Holyrood Academy in Chard were able to meet Lord Paddy Ashdown, who visited to talk about the "Future for the Next Generation".

As part of its programme of "Speakers for Inspiration", Holyrood invited Lord Ashdown to talk to students about his career and to offer any advice he felt might benefit their futures. He particularly focused his speech on his role as MP for South Somerset.

The students were completely engaged, asking questions and responding to his challenges; many commented on how they

enjoyed his direct "no nonsense" approach.

They felt inspired by his message to go out and follow their dreams and have adventures before settling down, and to make sure they gave 100 per cent effort to every opportunity that presents itself.

Karen Seib, head of sixth form, said: "I would like to extend my thanks to Lord Ashdown for visiting and inspiring us. We all thoroughly enjoyed his entertaining and down-to-earth presentation which he was kind enough to deliver and we appreciate his time."



■ CHARD-based charity WATCH enjoyed a big turnout for its Christmas party, including mayor Dave Bulmer. WATCH stands for Working Altogether in Chard, and it is a voluntary group set up to reach out and engage with adults who, because of various conditions and issues, are socially isolated and who face barriers within their community and surrounding areas. Anyone interested in the project can find out more by visiting the website <http://watchproject.org.uk>

A dog is for life, not just for Christmas!

FERNE Animal Sanctuary in Wambrook, near Chard, is offering some sound advice for people looking to give an animal as a Christmas present.

Nikki Haddock, animal care manager, said: "We have all heard the mantra, 'A dog is for life not just for Christmas'. It is repeated so often that one might think that the message surely must have sunk in. Yet you can be sure that animal shelters the length and breadth of the UK will be thinking about preparing for the influx of unwanted animals of all kinds given as Christmas presents.

"All this fun and excitement can take its toll on staff at animal sanctuaries like Ferne. So imagine how a new pet, who may have recently been taken away from its mother and siblings and a familiar environment feels.

"Toilet training a young animal needs routine and eyes in the back of your head! Feeding needs to be at regular times, training needs to be consistent

and is more effective with few distractions. There are also many tasty, festive treats which may get accidentally dropped or left within easy reach of your pet which may be harmful to them.

"If you are looking for a new addition to your family, maybe consider sponsorship of an animal as a Christmas gift and look at adoption once you are back into your usual routine and can give the time a new pet will need to settle into your home and lifestyle. This would be less stressful for the pet - and you!

"Everyone at Ferne Animal Sanctuary wishes all readers a Happy Christmas and would like to say a huge thank-you for the support we receive. Without it, we simply would not be able to help those animals who need us."

To find out more about Ferne Animal Sanctuary, visit the website www.ferneanimalsanctuary.org or call 01460 65214.

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Schools join forces for festive concert

MANOR Court and Redstart primary schools from Chard joined forces to hold a Christmas concert in aid of the mayor's chosen charities.

The pupils performed a variety of festive tunes, with Father Jeffery Williams welcoming the audience and giving a short reading to close the evening.

The Mayor of Chard, Councillor Dave Bulmer, thanked the audience, guests, students and teachers for supporting his chosen charities - St Margaret's Hospice and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Photos by GARY TANNER



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■ **EARLY CHRISTMAS:** Headteacher Connel Boyle and Councillor Linda Vijeh

Councillor donates £570 to school gardening project

NEROCHE Primary School in Ilminster received an early Christmas present when local councillor Linda Vijeh found £570 in one of her locality budgets.

A cheque has been presented and Councillor Vijeh said: "I am thrilled that I was able to find £570 from my pot of money to help with the school gardening project. I look forward to seeing it up in action."

Headteacher Connel Boyle added: "The gardening project is for children from the local pre-

school and our reception class.

"We will be purchasing free standing planters that will allow the children to grow vegetables and plants according to the seasons, helping them to understand the seasons and nature."

"We are so grateful for these funds that will go a long way to helping us to continue our enhancements of our large open green spaces around the school."

"It is great for the children of Ilminster and our villages to continue reconnecting with nature."

Ilminster trader wins national award

AN Ilminster trader has won a national award as Home Hardware retailer of the year.

Phillip Wyatt, of Ilminster Home Hardware in Silver Street, picked up the accolade from the Home Hardware Group selected from more than 450 independently run shops throughout the country.

The cup was awarded to Phillip at the Home Hardware Convention.

Phillip and his wife Kate took over Town & Country Hardware in October 2012 after relocating from Dorset, where he ran the family hardware store for 16 years in Upton, Poole.

Phillip said: "The success of Ilminster Home Hardware is firstly down to teamwork. All the staff and my family have played a part, and we all work together to make it a strong independent family business."

"Secondly, to Home Hardware that provide excellent stock, competitive pricing and brochures that our customers adore. We are also very appreciative of the support from the shoppers of Ilminster and the surrounding areas."

Home Hardware is the UK's largest dealer-owned wholesale buying group, and boasts over 20,000 products from all the leading brands in the home and garden sector.

By combining members purchasing spend, it gives greater buying power, ensuring that customers can always expect value for money on quality brands, in their local Home Hardware store.

ware store.

Home Hardware CEO Martin Elliott said: "In choosing a winner, we take into account the professional approach to retailing, including promotion and customer care. It is a difficult decision due to the number of member stores, however, there was one business that did stand out, and that was Ilminster Home Hardware."

"Phillip, Kate and their team operate an excellent business and it's nice to see it well supported by the local community."

Phillip is a devoted retailer in the town and is currently president of the Ilminster Chamber of Trade and Commerce.



■ **AWARD WINNER:** Home Hardware retailer of the year Phillip Wyatt (right), of Ilminster Home Hardware, receives his trophy from Home Hardware CEO David Adams. Below, Phillip Wyatt (back centre) and the team from Ilminster Home Hardware



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For an application form, please contact:
Silverleigh Care Home, Axminster: 01297 32611

Public Notice

The governors of Colyton Grammar School are consulting on Admissions Arrangements for the September 2017 entry.

Details are available at
www.colytongrammar.devon.sch.uk/admissions/index.htm

View From Classified

HOTPOINT Frost Free Fridge Freezer Model FFA52P, white, excellent working condition, £50. Tel 01297 639383

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CAR SNOW SOX, winter tyre covers alternative to snow chains; unused, suitable for Renault Megane or similar size wheel, £20. Tel 01297 639383

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distressed antique low chair and a matching foot stool, very pretty with blue and white strip fabric, £65. Tel 07932 765355

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Wadham students reach final of Big Bang Science Fair in Birmingham

STUDENTS from Wadham School in Crewkerne - Molly Daniel, Sophie Feilder and Maddie Bennett - were delighted to qualify for the National Big Bang Science Fair final at Birmingham's NEC in March 2016.

To qualify, these students researched the effects of caffeine on reaction time and presented their findings at an exhibition hall at the University of Exeter. Judges walked round hundreds of stands and talked to students about their work and then selected the best nine entries one of which was Wadham.

After celebrating their win, the students turned their attention to gaining support from the local community to pay for the trip to Birmingham, as it was an unplanned event.

A school spokesperson said: "Transport to Birmingham and accommodation for three Year 10 students and two adults for two nights will run into hundreds of pounds and money for these trips is not always available on tight school budgets.

"Fortunately, Brotherwood, a company that is based in Sherborne and makes wheelchair accessible vehicles, stepped in to provide a people carrier and free



■ **SCHOOL SUPPORT:** From left, John Daniel, managing director of Brotherwood Accessible Vehicle Converters, with Sophie Feilder and Maddie Bennett and Molly Daniel

fuel for the trip.

"We are very grateful that Brotherwood have helped our students in this way. Visiting their premises and presenting them with a letter of thanks is a small way of giving them the recognition they deserve.

"This entry for Wadham School was in part a follow-on to the fantastic work done by science teachers at Maiden Beech Middle School in Crewkerne, which have a long history of making many entries to the Big Bang Science Fair and who themselves have qualified for the National Finals.

"In the meantime, the three Year 10

students are busy enhancing and developing their caffeine project researching techniques on how to determine the concentration of caffeine and reading scientific papers. So far they have discovered that some scientists have developed a technique similar in Hong Kong.

"Molly, Sophie and Maddie are looking to develop a technique involving titration also."

If there are any other local companies who would like to make a contribution to the costs of this trip they are asked to contact Wadham School.

Folk dance club enjoys live music for Christmas party

FOR nearly 80 years Crewkerne Folk Dance Club has not stopped dancing.

The music and the dancing continued non-stop at this year's Christmas party when the club brought in guest caller Sue Hosham, from Bath, and brother and sister musicians Alison Nourse on fiddle and Steve Shears on keyboards especially for the occasion.

"People were able to join in every dance," said Leslye Stansfield.

"We usually dance to recorded music so it was a real treat to have professional musicians and a caller as good as Sue to perform for us.

Everyone had an excellent time and the party was a huge success."

About 30 people attended the party at the Church Hall in Abbey Street on December 10th. The only pause in the dancing was for a buffet halfway through the evening.

Some of the dances they performed were hundreds of years old, among them "Portsmouth", which dates from 1701 and is probably best known from Mike Oldfield's version in the 1970s, "Never Love Thee More" from 1686 and "Bar-a-Bar"



■ **NON-STOP DANCING:** Members turned up in numbers for the Christmas party

from 1719.

The folk club, which started in the 1930s, meets every Thursday from 8pm to 10pm at the Church Hall. "You don't need a partner and new members are warmly welcomed," added Leslye.

"All the dances are called and walked through first and after learning a few basis movements, you're ready to join in a variety of dances."

For more information call Denise Smith on 01460 77320.


Festive Boxing Day dance

A FESTIVE season dance will be held at Chard Guildhall on Boxing Day.

The event is being hosted by Dancing Duo Henry and Jeanie Clark and will include a mixture of ballroom, Latin and sequence dances with a Christmas theme.

The dance will be held from 8pm to 11pm with light refreshments. Tickets for £6 can be bought on the door and organisers encourage those attending to park in the council car park to avoid a fine.

For further details, call 01803 325905.



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Advertiser's announcement



▲ Margaret Pike before.



▲ Margaret Pike after.

MARGARET PIKE, Slimming World Woman of the Year 2015, winner for the Axminster group has lost an incredible 5 stone 7 lbs and has now kept her weight off for 12 months.

Margaret a medical technical officer from Colyton, joined the Axminster group just after Christmas 2014 and dropped from a size 20 to a size 10 in less than a year. With Margaret's job she had to encourage people to lose weight for their health, but was embarrassed that she hadn't managed to sort out her own weight problem, which left her with no energy and tired all the time.

Says Margaret "It has totally changed my life, I used to eat fatty foods and have chronic indigestion, now I can still graze, but on the right foods"

All her colleagues have been inspired by her amazing achievement and laugh when she brings in a carrier bag full of food, she never goes hungry!

"I wanted to do it for me and I feel so good now."

"Slimming World's plan isn't about going 'on a diet',

it's about discovering a new way of eating that means you can still enjoy food and live your life. In fact, by making small changes to the way they prepare and cook meals, slimmers find there's very little they can't have while losing weight" says Margaret's Consultant, Helen.

"We also know that many people put off joining groups such as ours as they are nervous and don't know what to expect, but myself and my colleagues, want to let them know that everybody is welcome with open arms and that there's absolutely no need to feel nervous, although you won't be the only one!"

Our groups are warm and welcoming and all our members know how it feels to walk into that room, as Margaret did almost a year ago!!

If you want to know more about any of our Slimming World groups in the area contact us on the advert number or call Helen Jones on 01297 34714

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SEVEN STUBBORN STAINS AND HOW TO REMOVE THEM...

TOO many of our favorite shirts, pants and dresses have fallen victim to spills, overzealous eating, and other accidents. Don't let stains have the upper hand! Meet the seven nastiest stain offenders and discover how to remove them for good!

RED WINE: If the fabric is dry clean only, use a dry cleaning solvent. If the fabric is washable, pretreat the stain with a laundry stain remover, then wash it per your garment's care instructions. If you're looking for a convenient at home remedy, saturate the affected garment with club soda, then wash.

CHOCOLATE: First, wait for the chocolate to harden. Then, use a spoon or butter knife to gently remove the chocolate from the affected garment. Next, use a dry cleaning solvent for washable and dry clean only fabrics. Place a white rag beneath the stain, then apply the solution directly on the chocolate. Blot the stain with your finger, then rinse with warm water and repeat if necessary.

GRASS: Your best bet is to immediately treat the stain with a stain stick. This enzyme-rich product helps prevent grass stains from setting into the fabric. Simply apply the stick to the grass stain, then blot into the stain. Wait anywhere from one minute

by Kristin Chessman

to one week before washing.

BLOOD: Treat blood stains as quickly as possible. Start by flushing cold water over the stain and blotting it with your fingertips. If this doesn't do the trick, use a dry cleaning solvent for washable and dry clean only fabrics. You also may use a laundry stain remover for washable fabrics. For an easy at home remedy, soak the garment in a mixture of ammonia and water for about 20 minutes, then rinse.

COFFEE: Quickly saturate the stain with a laundry stain remover. Then, wash it in water as warm as the fabric allows. If you don't have a stain remover handy, try using a liquid dishwashing detergent instead.

GREASE: First, apply an absorbent powder (like cornstarch, baking soda, or baby powder) to the grease stain and let it sit. If grease still remains, use a dry cleaning solvent for both washable and dry clean only fabrics. While treating, don't forget to place an absorbent white cloth beneath the stain.

INK: Use hairspray! Place a clean rag underneath the stain and spray the ink until the fabric is saturated. Let it soak for several seconds and blot with another clean rag. Repeat until the ink stain is gone and launder as usual immediately afterward.

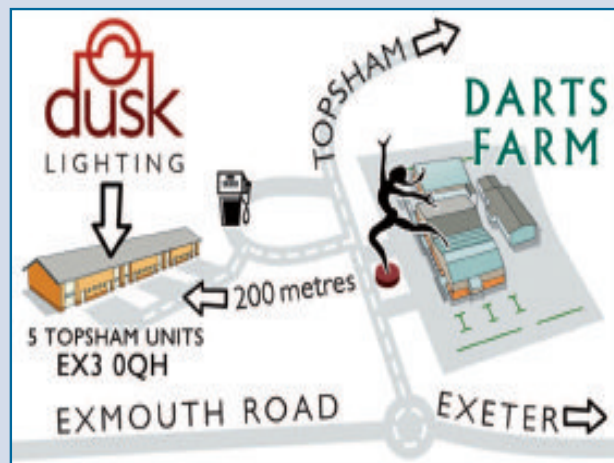
For more household tips visit www.sheknows.com/home-and-gardening

Dusk Lighting

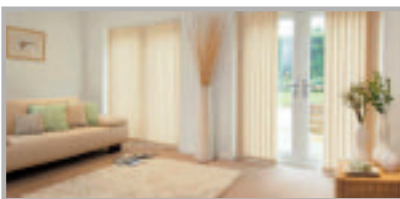
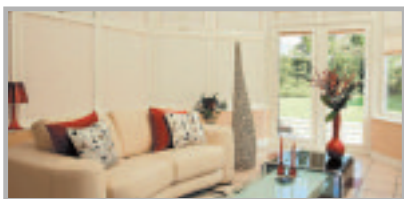
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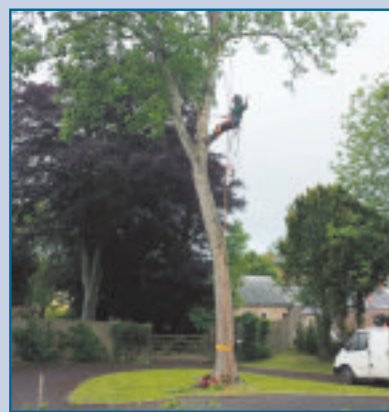
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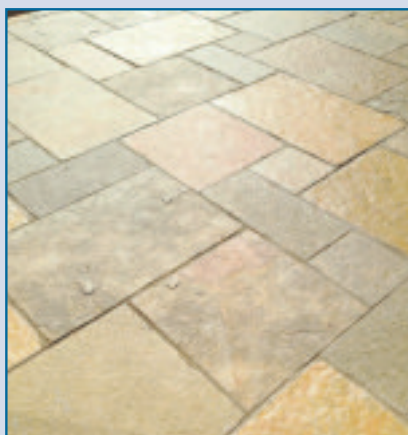
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Don't forget to check the Company's website www.westcrete-ltd.co.uk for their latest Special Offers, it also provides a useful selection of information and tips to customers from a beginners guide to laying a patio to technical advice.



Greenshutters Nurseries & Garden Centre

GREENSHUTTERS Nurseries & Garden Centre is a family run business nestled in the heart of the Somerset countryside. It is open 7 days a week and stocks an extensive range of plants. The Garden Centre has completely changed in the last few years with the layout being completely re-designed. There are new entrances from the road and into the Plant Area and the old-fashioned wooden greenhouse has been restored to its former glory with its bright, white painted wood. Most of the plants are now on tables so you don't have to bend down to look at them and the layout has been designed to make the walk around the plant area enjoyable.

This year Greenshutters Garden Centre is stocking a much larger range of herbaceous perennials and roses, including new and unusual varieties. There is also a new range of quality garden benches dotted among the plants, so you are welcome to wander around the garden centre and take a rest as you go. You can even sit and enjoy the view over Taunton Vale and the Quantocks.

The business also incorporates EVER-GREENHEDGING.co.uk, one of the largest stockists of evergreen hedging plants in the country. Thousands of plants are grown every year on the nursery from small to large, mature hedging plants; the best sellers being Laurel, Leylandii, Photinia 'Red Robin'

and Portugal Laurel. These are delivered locally or nationwide or can be collected from Greenshutters Nurseries and Garden Centre.

Greenshutters is run by Dr Roger Eavis, who bought the nursery in 1998 and the business has grown steadily every year since then. "We pride ourselves on good customer service and advice, good quality plants and I hope we have created a pleasant place to wander and enjoy the plants," says Roger, "We have a great team of staff who are always willing to help and give advice". Greenshutters Nurseries and Garden Centre is well worth a visit.

For more information visit their website at GREENSHUTTERS.co.uk or follow them on Facebook at [Facebook.com/GreenshuttersGC](https://www.facebook.com/GreenshuttersGC).



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01460 281265

www.greenshutters.co.uk

Fivehead Taunton, Somerset, TA3 6PT

Pulman's Property View



TWO BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED BUNGALOW, IN LYME REGIS - £750 PCM

SITUATED on the fringe of Lyme Regis is a very nicely presented and recently renovated and newly decorated two bedroom semi-detached bungalow which is offered for rent unfurnished. The property comprises a lounge with a feature fireplace, a fully fitted new modern kitchen with electric oven and hob with a stainless steel extractor fan. The property has gas fired central heating. There are two bed-

rooms and a newly fitted bathroom suite with shower fitted over the bath. There is a landscaped front garden with a parking area. The rear garden is laid to lawn with various plants and shrubs, including a patio area and garden shed. The EPC rating for this property is D.

Viewing: By appointment through FSB Rentals Limited, Tel: 01297 21120.



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NEW BEER £850 PCM



A FOUR BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED COTTAGE COMPRISING: LOUNGE WITH OPEN FIRE; KITCHEN; DINING ROOM WITH WOOD BURNER; MASTER BEDROOM WITH EN-SUITE AND BALCONY; THREE FURTHER BEDROOMS; DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM WITH SHOWER & BATH; FRONT & REAR GARDENS; ROADSIDE PARKING. EPC RATING D.

NEW COLYTON £850 PCM



A SPACIOUS, DETACHED, 3 BEDROOM BUNGALOW IN CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION. THE PROPERTY IS LET UNFURNISHED AND COMPRISES: FITTED KITCHEN; LOUNGE; DINING AREA; THREE GOOD BEDROOMS; BATHROOM; DOUBLE GARAGE; GARDENS. EPC RATING D.

CHARMOUTH £1,100 PCM



A WELL PRESENTED DETACHED FURNISHED BUNGALOW SET IN CORNER PLOT OF APPROX. 1/3 ACRE WITH AMAZING SEA AND COASTAL VIEWS. THE PROPERTY CONSISTS OF THREE BEDROOMS TO INCLUDE ONE MASTER EN-SUITE, BATHROOM, FITTED KITCHEN, UTILITY ROOM, LARGE L-SHAPED DINING ROOM/LOUNGE WITH PATIO DOORS OUT INTO THE ATTRACTIVE GARDENS. SINGLE GARAGE. LARGE DRIVEWAY. EPC RATING D.

UPLYME £750 PCM



A VERY WELL PRESENTED TWO BEDROOM COTTAGE. LET UNFURNISHED, THE PROPERTY CONSISTS OF: NEWLY FITTED KITCHEN; LIVING ROOM; GROUND FLOOR BEDROOM; NEW BATHROOM SUITE; FIRST FLOOR BEDROOM; PARKING. EPC RATING D.

BRANSCOMBE £625 PCM



A TWO BEDROOM UNFURNISHED MID-TERENCED COTTAGE IN THE PICTURESQUE VILLAGE OF BRANSCOMBE. OPEN PLAN LOUNGE/KITCHEN, WOOD BURNER IN LOUNGE, 2 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM WITH FITTED SHOWER OVER BATH, SMALL GARDEN TO REAR. EPC RATING E.

NEW APARTMENTS AVAILABLE - SEATON



UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS IN BLOCK CONVENIENTLY SITUATED IN TOWN CENTRE. STEPS FROM THE BEACH. ALL APARTMENTS DOUBLE GLAZED & ELECTRIC HEATING. EPC RATING D.
1 BED FIRST FLOOR - £495PCM
1 BED FIRST FLOOR - £475 PCM
2 BED SECOND FLOOR - £575 PCM

NEW SEATON £575 PCM



A GROUND FLOOR, TWO BEDROOM, UNFURNISHED FLAT OCCUPYING A 'TUCKED AWAY' LOCATION WITHIN A SHORT WALK OF THE TOWN CENTRE. DOUBLE GLAZING. GFCH. SMALL PRIVATE GARDEN. NO PARKING WITH THIS PROPERTY. EPC RATING C.

CHARMOUTH £850 PCM



DETACHED COTTAGE IN CHARMOUTH COMPRISING OPEN PLAN LAYOUT WITH UNDER FLOOR HEATING IN THE KITCHEN AREA. WOOD BURNER. TWO BEDROOMS. DOUBLE GLAZING. GFCH. SOUTH FACING GARDEN TO THE FRONT. SHED TO THE REAR. PARKING TWO VEHICLES. PETS CONSIDERED. EPC RATING: C.

LET CHARMOUTH £795 PCM



NEWLY DECORATED, TWO/THREE BEDROOM TERRACED HOUSE. OFFERED UNFURNISHED. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED JUST OFF THE MAIN STREET AND CONSISTS OF: TWO BEDROOMS AND SHOWER ROOM ON GROUND FLOOR. LOUNGE WITH BALCONY, FITTED KITCHEN, DINING ROOM/BEDROOM 3 AND BATHROOM ON FIRST FLOOR. GFCH. PAVED COURTYARD GARDEN. OFF-ROAD PARKING. GARAGE. EPC RATING: D.

ROUSDON £850 PCM



A WELL PRESENTED UNFURNISHED MEWS COTTAGE SET WITHIN A MAGNIFICENT 350 ACRE ESTATE WITH ITS OWN BEACH. PROPERTY COMPRISES: KITCHEN/DINER; LOUNGE; MASTER BEDROOM WITH EN-SUITE; SECOND BEDROOM; ATTIC ROOM; PARKING. EPC RATING E.



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EAST DEVON & SOUTH SOMERSET

View 2

RORY REMEMBERS... (OR FORGETS!)

Rory McGrath brings
stand-up tour to Exeter
See page 17



ABBA'S ANGELS

Tribute to pop legends at the Square & Compass page 16



EDISON HERBERT

Soulful sounds with the guitarist's trio page 17



THE PRODUCERS

New Year's Eve Party with the blues group page 17

Diary Dates

UNTIL THURSDAY DECEMBER 24TH
AXMINSTER: Visit a new pop-up shop, Artemis House Gallery, selling a wide range of paintings, prints, cards, stained glass, lamps and mirrors by local artists Christine Allison, Anthea Simmons, Ann Pengelly, Elizabeth Richie, Trisha Hayman, Pam Allsop and Karol Kulik. Open Thursdays-Sundays 10.15am-4.00pm. Artemis House, 7 West Street, Axminster, Devon EX13 5NX. www.artemishouse.co.uk

TUESDAY DECEMBER 22ND
CREWKERNE: Tuesday Welcome Group at Henhayes Centre. £1 per session. For people 70+/80+ who like to meet other people and enjoy a few activities like painting, pottery, music, quizzes and occasional bingo. Transport can be arranged and a cooked meal can be purchased from £3.50. Take-away meals are available.
SIDMOUTH: Ruishton Concertina Band 'Christmas Crackers' concert at Sidholme Music Room, Elysian Fields, Temple Street, 7.45pm. Sing aloud and tap your feet. Free entry, bucket collection for restoration fund.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 23RD
CREWKERNE: Bingo at Henhayes Centre, cash prizes. Eyes down 2.30pm.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 24TH
CREWKERNE: John De Barra live at the King William.
HONITON: Crib Service in the Church of England St Paul's, High Street, 11am.
HONITON: Carols (10.30pm), Christmas Eucharist (11pm) at Church of England St Paul's, High Street.
HONITON: Carol Service with Mass at the Roman Catholic Church, Church of the Holy Family, Exeter Road, 8pm.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 25TH
HONITON: Holy Communion (traditional) at 8am, and Christmas Eucharist at 9.30am, at Church of England St Paul's, High Street.
HONITON: Short Celebration Service at Community Church at the Beehive Centre, Dowell Road, 10am.
HONITON: Family Service at Evangelical Congregational Church, High Street, 10.30am.
HONITON: Christmas Family Service led by Mr John Firth, at Family Church (Baptists Together), High Street, 10.30am.
HONITON: Christmas Day Family Service led by minister Rev Jonathan Froggatt at Methodist Church, Chapel Street, off New Street, 10.30am.
HONITON: Christmas Day Mass at the Roman Catholic Church, Church of the Holy Family, Exeter Road, 11am.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 26TH
HONITON: Boxing Day Mass at the Roman Catholic Church, Church of the Holy Family, Exeter Road, 9.30am.

FRIDAY JANUARY 1ST
CREWKERNE: Yeovil Car Club New Year's Day Classic Car Meet, Haselbury Mill, TA 18 7NY 10am - 2pm No pre booking, £2 per car. Hog roast and licensed bar. Up to 150 Classics expected (no modern saloons please). Details www.yeovilcarclub.com or 01297 552267.

MONDAY JANUARY 4TH
AXMINSTER: Carnival Bingo at the Guildhall. Doors open 7pm, eyes down 8pm.
CREWKERNE: Award-winning wildlife photographer Colin Varndell is the speaker at the January meeting of Crewkerne and District U3A. His talk on 'The Natural Beauty of Dorset' is being held at the Henhayes Centre, 2pm.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6TH
SEATON: Men's Probus Club meeting 10am. Methodist Church Hall, Scallwell Lane. Talk by Patricia Lowther entitled 'When War Broke Out'
BEER: Jurassic Jam at Dolphin Hotel, Fore Street, 8-10.15pm. Music for all to join in. Free admission for musicians and spectators. For more details call 01404 46451 or 549903, or visit the website at www.jurassicfolkandjam.com

THURSDAY JANUARY 7TH
CHARD: Chard Camera Club will be meeting for it's first meeting of the New Year at the Baptist Church Hall, Holyrood Street and will be holding a workshop on Macro Photography. Anyone will be made welcome so come along and start a new year off by getting to use those newly acquired Christmas gifts. Further details can be obtained from Mr Peter Partridge on 01460 66885 or by visiting their website www.chardcameraclub.co.uk

FRIDAY JANUARY 8TH
AXMINSTER: Free Make & Munch with HALFF (Health and Local Food for Families) 10.30-12.30. For parents and carers of children (0-18), a hands-on course of six sessions. Have fun preparing simple delicious food and enjoy eating it together. Pre-school age children welcome with parents/carers. At the Methodist Hall, Lyme Road, Axminster. To book a place call Ros on 01297 631782 for more information or email admin@half.org.uk

Abba's Angels at the Square and Compass

ABBA'S ANGELS are one of the UK's premier Abba tribute bands, featuring some incredibly talented singers and musicians they offer one of the most captivating and authentic tributes to one of the greatest bands of all time.

They have appeared on BBC and Sky 1, featured on *Star for a Night*, and featured on the front cover of the *Sunday Times Magazine*.

Abba's Angels perform all the best known Abba

songs wearing painstakingly hand-made replica costumes with choreographed dance routines with several stunning costume changes, all in all a brilliant nights entertainment!

You can see Abba's Angels live at the The Barn at Square and Compass, Windmill Hill, near Ilminster, on Sunday, December 27th, from with doors opening 8pm. Tickets are £14 in advance, from the venue or online at www.mojopromo.co.uk.

WINSTONS
NEW YEARS EVE PARTY
THURSDAY 31ST DEC - 8PM TIL LATE

That 70s Band

PLUS 70'S DISCO AND FANCY DRESS
INCLUDES HOT & COLD BUFFET

TICKETS ONLY EVENT £15.00

AVAILABLE FROM WINSTONS 01297 20494
BEER VILLAGE STORE 01297 20905
AXE MUSIC AXMINSTER 01297 631609

Winstons 70s New Year's Eve Party

WINSTONS in Seaton are having their end of year party on New Year's Eve this year, featuring That 70s Band, plus a 70s disco and a hot and cold buffet, all for just £15.00.

Manager Chris Oakes said: "Last years party was such a success and great fun that when we talked about this year everyone asked if we could do the same again, so that's what we've done, at the same price as last year.

"If you haven't seen the band live, they dress in the cheesiest 70s gear and play all the favourites from you guessed it, the 70s!

"We are also encouraging people to do fancy dress, this is optional, but be warned this is a ticket only event and 75% of the tickets have been sold, so get yours while you still can and come and see the new year in style."

Tickets are available from Winstons, Beer Village Stores and Axe Music in Axminster.

The Henhayes Community Centre in Crewkerne

Open to all 5 days a week
 for lunch, tea or coffee 9am to 4.30pm
 and Saturday mornings
 for coffee or tea and cakes
 from 10am to 12 noon
 Licensed premises
 The Centre can also be hired

LOOK WHAT'S ON

Friday 22nd January
 Chefs' Special Lunch



Saturday 30th January
 Big Breakfast



Friday 12th February
 Concert
 featuring the
 Schmoozenbergs



Please contact the Centre for further details

The Henhayes Community Centre,
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 Tel: 01460 74340

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ILMINSTER

arts centre

AT THE MEETING HOUSE

OPEN PRIZEWINNERS' EXHIBITION

Mon 4 - Sat 23 January

A group show by the prizewinning artists of the 2015 Ilminster Open Exhibition.

EDISON HERBERT TRIO

Friday 8 January 8pm

Tickets £12 (£25 with pre-show supper at 7pm, must be pre-booked)

Modern jazz in the style of Wes Montgomery.

The Arts Centre closes for the Christmas/New Year break on Thurs 24 December at 12noon, reopening on Mon 4 January from 9.30am.

We wish all our volunteers and visitors a very Happy Christmas.

Box Office: 01460 54973
 www.themeetinghouse.org.uk
 info@themeetinghouse.org.uk
 East Street, Ilminster, Somerset. TA19 0AN.
 Open Mon-Fri 9.30-4.30, Sat 9.30-2.30.

Diary Dates

SATURDAY JANUARY 9TH
HINTON ST GEORGE: 'Flix in the Stix' presents '45 Years' (15), in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 in advance from the Village Shop and Dorothy's Tea Room, or, £5.50p on the door. To reserve Tickets please contact Bob Kefford on 01460 72563.

SATURDAY JAN 9TH - WEDNESDAY JAN 13TH
HONITON: South West Academy Exhibition at the Thelma Hulbert Gallery. For more details visit www.thelmahulbert.com

MONDAY JANUARY 11TH
NEROCHE: 'Miniatures of the Wallace Collection', 7.15pm. This lecture by Stephen J. Duffy explains the formation of the collection and looks in depth at such artists as Samuel Cooper, Richard Cosway, Peter Adolph Hall and Jean-Batiste Isabey. Guests £5 Visit nerochedfas.org.uk for more details

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13TH
HONITON: Beehive Scottish Folk Café, 8pm. Free entry. Come along and sing or listen in the Beehive bar, with host Sue King. A Scottish twist every month - wear Tartan or bring a Scottish song or tune to sing or play.

THURSDAY JANUARY 14TH
CHARD: Chard Royal Naval Association will be holding their AGM meeting at 7.30pm at the Chard Conservative club. Anyone wishing to join the association should attend this meeting where they will be made most welcome. Details before doing so can be obtained from the Secretary Mr Gary Pennells on 01460 77978 or Paula Moon 01460 929041

FRIDAY JANUARY 15TH
HONITON: Film: 'Bridge of Spies' (cert 12A) at the Beehive, 7.30pm. Tickets £6.50, under 16s £5.50.

SATURDAY JANUARY 16TH
HONITON: Film: 'Florence & The Uffizi Gallery' at the Beehive, 7.30pm. Tickets £10.

SUNDAY JANUARY 17TH
SIDMOUTH: ShelterBox Tea Dance at Stowford Centre. 2.30pm. Ballroom & Sequence dancing hosted by Jean and David (01395 579856). £3 per dancer, licensed cafe open for light refreshments.

MONDAY JANUARY 18TH
AXMINSTER: Carnival Bingo at the Guildhall. Doors open 7pm, eyes down 8pm.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 20TH
BEER: Jurassic Folk Club at the Dolphin Hotel, Fore Street 8-10.30pm. Music and song for all to enjoy. Free admission for musicians, singers and spectators. For more details call 01404 46451 or 549903.
TATWORTH: FREE Tea & Talk "RNAS Yeovilton Past, Present & Future" in the Brewer Room at Tatworth Memorial Hall. 2pm. Organised by Tatworth & Forton Active Living. For more details call 01460 220339.
SEATON: Men's Probus Club meeting 10 a.m. Methodist Church Hall, Scallwell Lane. Talk by Darren Walker of Devon Action entitled 'Help and Advice for the over 50s'.

THURSDAY JANUARY 21ST
CHARD: Chard Camera Club will be away from their base as they visit Wellington Camera Club at Wellington for the first inter club competition of the new year.

FRIDAY JANUARY 22ND
TATWORTH: Film: '45 Years' (cert 12a) at Tatworth Memorial Hall. Doors 7.15pm, film 8pm. Organised by T&F Movies. For more details call 01460 220198
HONITON: Film: 'Love and Mercy' (cert 12A) at the Beehive, 7.30pm. Tickets £6.50, under 16s £5.50.

SATURDAY JANUARY 23RD
HONITON: Orchestral Workshop with the CBSO. 10am-6pm. Play-through at 5pm open to the public. No admission charge, retiring collection. For experience string players. Enquiries to roghendy@gmail.com

MONDAY JANUARY 25TH
AXMINSTER: Carnival Bingo at the Guildhall. Doors open 7pm, eyes down 8pm.
BEER: Beer Film Society presents "45 Years" cert 15 starring Charlotte Rampling and Tom Courtenay. At Steamers Restaurant in Beer doors open at 7pm, film 7.30pm General Public £5, Members £3.50. All welcome, bar and refreshments available. www.beerfilmsociety.org.uk

TUESDAY JANUARY 26TH
ILMINSTER: Study Day. 'Who Says? Making Judgements in Art'. This study day is led by David Phillips, and explores what makes a piece of art good, bad or indifferent, and what makes it valuable - or worthless? And when is a piece of art in good taste - and when is it just kitsch? Ticket prices: members £35, non members £40. For more details and application form see our website nerochedfas.org.uk or telephone Mrs. Wendy Outram 01460 259113. At Monks Yard, Horton Cross, 10am-3.30pm (including lunch).

Edison's soul guitar

The first jazz concert of the year at Ilminster Arts Centre features one of the most exciting new talents on the UK jazz scene. Edison Herbert is a highly accomplished jazz guitarist whose lyrical, accessible style draws on his guitar heroes Wes Montgomery, George Benson, Tal Farlow as well as masters of funk such as Nile Rodgers.

Edison came to critical notice when he was performing with the Guildhall Big Band at Ronnie Scotts, and he was subsequently asked to join the Jazz Warriors. Edison has also worked with Randy Brecker, Clark Peters and Kim Burrell, and wrote the arrangements for the Olivier nominated West End show 'Unforgettable', as well as composing music for BBC Radio.

Edison's flowing rhythm and melodic lines are supported masterfully by the other members of the trio, who are Winston Clifford on drums and 'Level' Neville Malcolm on bass. Winston's drumming credentials are impeccable, and he has played with

artists such as Courtney Pine, Bheki Mseleku, and the Ronnie Scott band. Neville Malcolm is one of the most in-demand bass players in the country, having played with everyone from Gabrielle, Yusuf Islam, Tom Jones, Marlena Shaw and Gregory Porter. His profound groove and earthy, soulful playing give the trio all it could want in the bass department.

For this performance the trio will be easing the audience in to the New Year with an easy-going set that mixes well-known tunes and standards with some of Edison's elegant compositions, and showcasing a range that moves effortlessly from sensitive ballads to foot-tapping up-tempo numbers.

The Edison Herbert Trio play at the Ilminster Arts Centre on Friday, January 8th at 8pm. Tickets are £12 (a pre-show supper is available for £13, but must be pre-booked). For more details call 01460 54973 or visit www.themeetinghouse.org.uk



Edison Herbert

Axminster Drama Club presents Jack and The Beanstalk

AXMINSTER Drama Clubs production this year will be bigger and better than ever before, not least because there is a giant amongst the cast. From that you may well have guessed that their pantomime this year is the well-known classic, Jack & the Beanstalk. The club have put together a cast of great comic actors which will have you rolling in the aisles with laughter, add to that upbeat songs, funky dancing and amazing scenery and costumes and once again it's going to be a show not to be missed.

Following last year's highly successful, Puss in Boots, Jack Price is once again directing this year's production supported by the usual team of talented scenery painters, costume makers, stage crew and

of course actors not to forget over 40 young performers ranging from 7 to 14 under the control as always of club Chairman Sara Leat.

Tickets will be on sale at Archway Bookshop, Church Street, Axminster from 29th December with performance dates being Thursday 14th to Saturday 16th January with a matinee on Saturday 16th.



AXMINSTER DRAMA CLUB
Presents....
A GIANT PANTOMIME
written by Ben Crocker
Directed by Jack Price
Jack and the Beanstalk
With arrangement by Ben Crocker Pantomimes
The Guildhall Axminster
Thursday 14th - Saturday 16th January 2016
at 7:30pm, Saturday Matinee 2:30pm
noda
TICKETS Adult £8 Child £7 from
Archway Bookshop, Church Street, Axminster.
Tickets on Sale Monday 28th December 2015

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Top blues group The Producers' to host New Year's Eve Party

ONE of the UK's top blues bands with 10 albums and world wide tours under their belt, The Producers use their annual New Years Eve party to relax and play anything and everything they feel like playing, getting well away from their usual structured blues set lists!

Previous NYE parties have included 'My Boy Lollipop', Cream's 'White Room', Spencer Davis' 'Keep on Running', 'Tequila', The Kinks 'You Really Got Me', in fact whatever constitutes a good party night!

The Producers host their New Year's Eve Party at The Barn@Square + Compass, Windmill Hill, Nr Ilminster. TA19 9NX, on Thursday, December 31st.

Doors open 8pm, starting 9pm. Tickets are £25 in advance (Ticket includes Hot food, limited numbers) from venue or www.mojopromo.co.uk, or by calling 01823 480467.



The Producers

Rory McGrath Remembers... or is it Forgets?

TV PRESENTER and seasoned comedy writer Rory McGrath is set to embark on his debut stand-up tour, beginning at Exeter Phoenix on Thursday, February 4th.

Rory McGrath Remembers (Or is it Forgets) sees Rory looking back over his life and wondering if he can remember any of it... if not, he'll make it up!

From his birth in a lowly stable in Bethlehem, to his Nobel Prize in Chemistry, there's nothing he's not prepared to bend the truth about.

Tickets are £14.50, available online at www.exeter-phoenix.org.uk or by calling 01392 667080



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See you in the Stage Door Bar!

— MONDAY 21ST THURSDAY - 24TH DECEMBER —



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nightly bar open 5.00pm/
onstage: 6.00pm/ Full price
£9.00/ Concessions: £7.00/
Family: £28.00 (2 adults 2 concs
or 1 adult 3 concs)/ Age
suitability: 7+/ seasonal family
musical with puppets.

— TUESDAY 29TH DECEMBER —

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Bar open: 6.30pm/ Onstage: 7.30pm/
Full Price: £11.00/ Concessions: £9.00/
Family: £36.00 (2 adults 2 concs or 1
adult 3 concs)/ TheatreFriends discount
available/ a heart-warming Christmas
family theatre.



**BOX OFFICE: LYME REGIS TIC 01297 442138 OR
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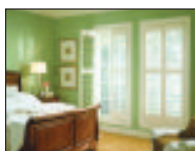
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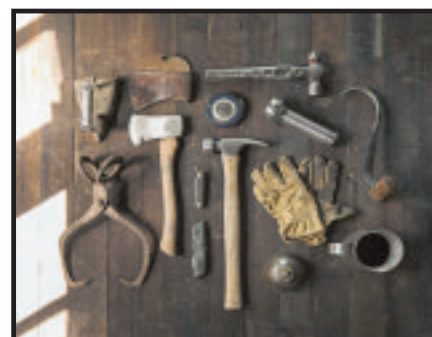
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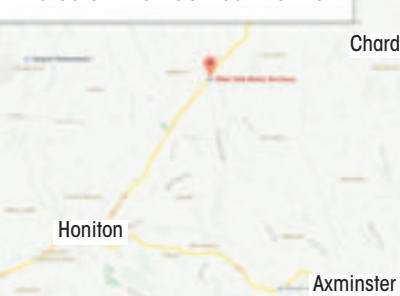
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CHARD TOWN	21	40
Chipping Sodbury	21	39
Oldland Abbots	18	39
Hengrove Athletic	18	34
Corsham Town	22	31
Radstock Town	20	31
Ashton & Backwell	21	30*
Wells City	30	30
Almondsbury	19	29
Keynsham Town	18	28
Roman Glass St G	22	28
Chippenhams Park	20	28
Wellington	20	27
Portsmouth Town	17	26
Warminster Town	19	25
Calne Town	17	23
Devizes Town	22	16
Westbury Utd	22	16
Wincanton Town	18	10
Bishops Sutton	20	2

SWP Div One (E) (34)	Pld	Pts
St Martins	16	40
Teignmouth	16	35
Tiverton Town Res	13	33
University of Exeter	17	31
Alphington	18	29
AXMINSTER TOWN	21	29
Appledore	13	25
Crediton Utd	16	25
Gallopston Utd	15	24
Budleigh Salterton	17	23
Exwick Villa	16	22
SIDMOUTH TOWN	16	21
Newton Abbot Spurs	13	19
Brixham AFC	18	19
Bovey Tracey	19	19
Totnes & Dartington	17	16
Liverton Utd	16	11
Okehampton Argyle	19	3

Somerset Div 1 (W) (24)	Pld	Pts
Middlezey Rovers	7	21
Wells City Res	8	19
Glastonbury FC	8	18
Cleeve West Town	9	17
Congresbury	11	17*
Minehead	9	12
COMBE ST NIC	8	10
Winscombe	9	9
ILMINSTER TOWN	7	8
Burnham Utd	9	7
Portsmouth Town Res	6	5
Street Res	7	4
St George Easton	10	3

D&E Premier (30)	Pld	Pts
Newtown	13	34
Feniton	14	32
Topsham Town	12	27
Honiton Town	14	25
Elmore	11	24
Exwick Villa Res	17	24
Heavitree Utd	12	22
Chard Town	16	14
Clyst Valley	14	14
Newton St Cyres	13	12
Hatherleigh Town	10	11
Seaton Town	9	10
Sidbury Utd	13	10*
Bow AAC	10	8
Beer Albion	12	8
Willand Rovers Res	10	7

D&E Div Six (26)	Pld	Pts
Millway Rise	11	27
Whipton & Pinhoe	8	24
Winchester	9	24
Newton St Cyres Res	7	19
Royal Oak (Exeter)	12	19
South Zeal Utd	10	17
Winkleigh	9	14
Exwick Village	13	14
Dunkeswell Rovers	12	13
East Budleigh Res	12	12*
Ilminster Town Res	13	10*
Woodbury Res	7	7
Silverton	11	6
Stoke Hill	8	0

Perry St Premier (24)	Pld	Pts
Beaminster	24	24
Barrington	21	21
Shepton Beauchamp	8	17
Perry Street	5	13
Combe Reserves	10	13
W & M Chinnock	10	13
South Petherton	6	12
Winham Utd	10	11
Netherbury	10	11
Chard Utd	10	11
Forton Rangers	9	5
Crewkerne Town	10	3*
Lyme Regis Bantams	5	2*

Perry St Div 1 (24)	Pld	Pts
Hawkhurst Utd	25	25
Barrington Res	9	19
Misterton	9	18
Driftnon	7	18
Pymore	8	11
Waytown Hounds	8	11
Uplyme	7	10
Beaminster Res	8	10
Combe A	7	7
Ilminster Town Colts	9	7
Crewkerne Rangers	9	5
Thorncombe	9	2

Perry St Div 2 (24)	Pld	Pts
Merriott Rovers	9	22
Chard Rangers	11	22
Shepton Beau Res	9	20
South Petherton Res	7	18
Combe B	9	18
Winham Utd Res	12	18
Chard Utd Res	10	15
Farway Utd	9	15
Hinton St George	12	12
Merriott Dynamos	9	7
Kingsbury Episcopi	12	7
Thorncombe Res	9	0

Perry St Div 3 (24)	Pld	Pts
Dowlsh & Donyatt	9	24
Perry Street Res	8	18
Fivehead	10	18
Charmouth	9	18
Uplyme Reserves	9	16
Halstock	5	13
Chard Rangers Res	8	13
Netherbury Reserves	7	12
Driftnon Reserves	10	11*
Crewk Rangers Res	9	9
Ilminster Town A	10	6
Chard Utd All Stars	10	6
Farway Utd Res	10	3

Sport – the latest local news

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swimming chard & district club

Briana is Top Girl at West Dorset Meet



◆ TOP GIRL: Briana Barrand with her award after the West Dorset Meet

CHARD & District Swimming Club took part in the West Dorset Christmas Meet in Dorchester on December 6th, and once again achieved many county and regional qualifying times writes Paul Harrison.

Particular congratulations must go to 11 year old Briana Barrand who achieved the Top Girl award over all female entrants at the gala, with three gold medals, six county qualifying times plus regional times in the 100 freestyle, 50 breaststroke and 100 breaststroke.

Grace Lambert, Millie Downes and Xanthe Dyer all achieved regional qualifying times in the 100 breaststroke, with Joss Copeman achieving three regional consideration times.

Iain Ross, Paul Harrison, Millie Downes and Xanthe Dyer all won two gold medals each, and Chard collected a further 14 silvers and 10 bronzes, with 22 personal best swims overall.

There were also an amazing 46 county qualifying times for the up-

coming Somerset County Championships in January.

Congratulations to all swimmers who took part: Jamie Porter, Benjamin Webb, Joss Copeman, Oliver Bright, Simon Davis, Paul Harrison, Freddie Coles, Iain Ross, Catherine Webb, Grace Lambert, Briana Barrand, Harriet Copeman, Xanthe Dyer, Jessica Fowler, Millie Downes, Abbie Herbert and Megan Herbert.

Seventeen swimmers from the club also travelled to Tiverton recently to compete in the Tiverton Sparkler, collecting numerous medals and personal best times.

Triple success

Henry Taswell led the way with three gold medals from three events, achieving two regional consideration times plus a regional qualifying time in the 100 backstroke.

Grace Lambert secured a regional qualifying time in addition to winning a gold medal in the 50 breaststroke, and collected a further gold medal in the 50 freestyle.

There were also regional consider-

ation times for Joss Copeman (who also won four gold medals) in the 100 butterfly, and for Briana Barrand in the 100 breaststroke. In addition to these successes, there were also gold medals for Paul Harrison (3), Simon Davis (3), Jamie Porter (2) and Xanthe Dyer (1).

Chard achieved a further 10 silver and 10 bronze medals, and accumulated a grand total of 23 personal best times – a highly commendable performance all-round.

Swimmers taking part were: Esme Huntley, Kaitlyn Flannigan, Henry Taswell, Iain Ross, Catherine Webb, Grace Lambert, Mia Huntley, Megan Herbert, Paul Harrison, Mia Porter, Briana Barrand, Harriet Copeman, Xanthe Dyer, Jamie Porter, Joss Copeman, Simon Davis and Abbie Herbert.

For further information on joining Chard Swimming Club, which is always looking for new swimmers aged seven and upwards, please see our web-site www.chardswimming.org.uk

boxing chard, ilminster & district club

Red hot Virk on fire in top win

THREE young boxers from Chard, Ilminster & District Amateur Boxing Club travelled to Camberley for an open boxing show on December 12th.

First up was Spencer Ayers who landed some great punches on a tough boxer from Small Holdings ABC in an energetic skills bout.

Next was Shane Hughes who

stepped into the ring, to take on an opponent from Portsmouth.

Hughes dominated from the start, his opponent was given a standing count in the first round, and his outstanding performance continued in the remaining rounds resulting in his first win.

Fire Virk fighting last for the club took on a boxer from

Mole Valley ABC - who had a great record winning seven out of eight bouts, but Virk rattled him from the first round and went on to clinch a convincing win over a strong opponent.

With more fights planned for January, the club are confident that 2016 will be an excellent year with such young and upcoming talent.



◆ PROMISING: Shane Hughes, Fire Virk and Spencer Ayers

short mat east devon league

AS THE League heads into the Christmas break, Sidbury sit on the top of Evening Division One with a bonus of three points with Beer are hot on their tail.

In Evening Two Seaton are still on the top, with Sidbury Reds

Evening 1	Pld	Pts
Sidbury	6	10
Beer	6	7
Musbury	4	5
Colyton	6	4
Uptonery	5	4
West Hill	4	2
Awliscombe	5	1

Evening 2	Pld	Pts
Seaton	5	9
Sidbury Whites	4	8
Sidbury Reds	5	6
Uffculme	5	5
Ottery St Mary	5	4
Colyton B	5	2
Awliscombe B	5	0

Afternoon 1	Pld	Pts
Beer	4	6
Awliscombe	5	6

climbing up to 3rd place.

Afternoon One sees Beer still on the top, with Awliscombe climbing to second place, Seaton Blue climb in Afternoon Two and Combe St Nicholas are up to second in Afternoon Three.

Colyton	4	5
Sidford	5	4
Uptonery	4	3
St Teresa's	4	2

Afternoon 2	Pld	Pts
Seaton Yellow	5	8
Ottery St Mary	5	7
Seaton Blue	4	4
Hemyock	5	4
Lyme Regis	5	4
Musbury	4	1

Afternoon 3	Pld	Pts
Chard	4	8
Combe St Nic B	3	6
Colyton B	6	6
Combe St Nic A	5	5
Seaton Green	5	4
Hemyock B	2	4
Seaton Red	5	3

school sport holyrood academy football

Wembley dream alive for Holyrood

HOLYROOD Academy U13 Girls football teams took part in a tournament of 24 teams from Somerset, Devon, Dorset and Wiltshire; the prize being a place at a regional competition which then leads to a curtain-raiser at the Johnson Paint Trophy Final next year.

Perfect group results

The Holyrood 1st team won all five of their group matches to qualify for the quarter-finals while the 2nd team earned a win against All Saints in the group stage but lost their other four games.

The 1st team went on to win both the quarter and semi-finals 1-0 against Woodroffe and Heathfield

respectively.

The team, comprising of a majority of Year 7s, then played in the final against Maiden Beech who were all Year 8s.

Despite their trepidation in playing a team that had previously beaten them 10-0 in the U12 County Cup, the girls recored a superb 2-0 victory.

Mr Richard Evans said, "Ellie Hull was outstanding in goal, keeping a clean sheet throughout the competition.

Freescoring Katie Beale scored a monumental nine goals and Maddie Crouch was awesome in both defence and attack.

◆ WELL PLAYED: The Holyrood U13 Girls squad



horse racing wessex point-to-point

Rotablade lifts Djivanovic to first victory

THERE was a balmy December day for racegoers to enjoy the 'Hurley Hambleton' meeting at Larkhill last Sunday for the opening of the new Wessex point-to-point season.

Some competitive racing was the feature of the day on going described as good, with a number of unexpected results.

Highlights were a first riding success for Izzi Djivanovic on her first ride, a double for owner David Maxwell and a riding double for Nick Lawton.

The meeting began with the Hunt race with the favourite Pateese outstaying Terra Bleu to give Hursley, near Winchester, trainer Penny Lownds another win in her Hunt race.

She was repeating last year's success and reckoned this was the sixth time she has won the race.

The Ladies Open provided a shock when long odds on favourite Chapoturgeon, ridden by Bryony Frost, fell when closing on the leaders at the 15th fence.

This left Rotablade, ridden by Izzi Djivanovic, to win by eight lengths from Court In Session.

The 24-year-old is assistant trainer to National Hunt trainer Caroline Keevil and has had success in the eventing world,

including representing Great Britain at the Young Rider Europeans.

She said 'no one wanted to make it, so I thought I might as well go off in front and I was waiting for Chapoturgeon to sweep by, but it did not happen!' She bought the horse privately with the intention of taking him team chasing.

When that season finished, she thought she might have a go at point-to-pointing and, by the way he jumped, there could be other successes before the season is over.

David Maxwell enjoyed his first ever riding success at Larkhill aboard No Loose Change, who held the late surge by Join Together ridden by Stan Sheppard in the Men's Open race.

He took up the running at the 14th fence and his mount stayed on to record a first point-to-point success.

A return to Hunter Chasing may be on the cards for the Kim Smyly trained 10-year-old and a tilt at the Aintree Fox-hunters could be a long term season aim for the combination.

The second ran a most encouraging race, having missed all of last season, and only went down by a length.

Mr Simpkins, the impressive looking son of Presenting, made virtually all to

win the Restricted race ridden by Sam Waley-Cohen and held off the attentions of Porlock Bay ridden by Will Biddick by four lengths.

As he had not raced since May 2014, this was an excellent performance and it is hoped that he will progress further.

He is named after Phil Simpkins, gardener for the Waley-Cohens for more than 25 years and Phil was present to receive the trophy on behalf of the family.

The Open Maiden was divided on the day and the two races may well produce a number of winners over the season.

The first division was the closest finish of the day, being only half a length between Big Bad Barry and Sugar Loaf Sholto at the line.

This was the second winner of the day for owner David Maxwell, but this time the horse was ridden by Alex Edwards for trainer Axelle Wall.

Bought by her husband Mark at Doncaster in May 2014 he has grown up this year and Mark exclaimed that he was 'chuffed to bits' to have found a horse for David, who was able to win first time out.

The second division provided a welcome winner for owner-trainer Sally

Alner whose Bonzo's Copse proved too good for his 11 rivals.

Ridden by Stan Sheppard, who was recommended to Sally by Andrew Doyle, pupil assistant trainer at Paul Nicholls.

After Posh Totty had won the concluding TBA Club Members Race for the Jack Barber/Will Biddick combination by a distance, an objection was lodged on the grounds the winner had not carried the correct weight.

Posh Totty was eventually disqualified, with the race being awarded to Triggywinkle, giving Nick Lawton his first riding double of his career.

Bushwacker was the winner of the charity flat race, where all the funds raised will be going to the Hampshire Air Ambulance.

Ridden by Laura Elliott, 27, who runs a livery yard at Plaitford, Hampshire the plan is for Bushwacker, a former useful chaser for Ron Hodges, to attempt a point-to-point campaign where he will be ridden by Laura's partner, Josh Cameron.

Results

Hunt Members (4 ran) 1 Pateese (FR) 1/3F (N Lawton); 2 Terra Bleu (IRE) 5/1 (O Wedmore); 3 Shantou Breeze (IRE)

5/2 (L Madgwick). 6mins 18s. 2l, 8l. (Penny Lownds)

Ladies Open (6 ran) 1 Rotablade (GB) 14/1 (I Djivanovic); 2 Court In Session (IRE) 12/1 (A Roberts); 3 Fitandproperjob (GB) 5/1 (G Andrews). 6mins 21s. 15l, nk. (Isabel Djivanovic).

Men's Open (11 ran) 1 No Loose Change (IRE) 5/1 (D Maxwell); 2 Join Together (IRE) 7/4 (Stan Sheppard); 3 Real Milan (IRE) 50/1 (Jack Jones). Time 6mins 09s. 2½l, 25l, (Kim Smyly).

Restricted (8 ran) 1 Mr Simpkins (GB) 4/6F (S Waley-Cohen); 2 Porlock Bay (IRE) 9/2 (W Biddick); 3 Sin Bin (IRE) 7/2 (G Andrews). 6mins 12s. 6l, 30l. (Robert Waley-Cohen).

Open Maiden Division One (11 ran) 1 Big Bad Barry (IRE) 7/1 (Alex Edwards); 2 Sugar Loaf Sholto (IRE) 5/2 (Z Baker); 3 Thereyaree (GB) 7/4F (Stan Sheppard). 6mins 18.5s. 1l, 3l. (Axelle Wall).

Open Maiden Division Two (12 ran) 1 Bonzo's Copse (GB) 12/1 (Stan Sheppard); 2 Athreethree (IRE) 7/4F (W Biddick); 3 Mr Cardle (IRE) 9/2 (J Hill). 6mins 14s. 15l, 8l. (Sally Alner).

TBA Club Members Mares & Fillies (3 ran) 1 Triggywinkle (FR) 9/1 (N Lawton). 6mins 40s. (Roderick Chelton).

sailing axe yacht club agm

All change at the top

DAVID Crees was elected Club President at the recent Axe Yacht Club AGM following the decision by Brian Lavender to stand down from the Executive Committee after 10 years as Secretary and four years as President.

Mr Crees is a long serving member of the Club, an RYA instructor and a previous Commodore of the Club.

David Haywood was elected Vice Commodore, replacing David Crees, having served in the past as Rear Commodore Sailing.

Nigel Daniel was elected Rear Commodore Activities Afloat after a close run ballot with Keith Parkinson. Nigel has been a Club member since 1965 and has accrued vast experience on the sea both professionally and as a Club member.

Ted Needham was elected Rear Commodore Harbour Services, replacing Pete Poulson who will continue to provide invaluable services to the Club.

Nicola Payne was elected Treasurer to replace the long-serving Noel Coplestone who has kept the Club finances in such good order over many years.

Amanda Parker was elected Communications Co-ordinator to replace Steve Hawkins who has stood down



◆ **THANK YOU:** Outgoing President Brian Lavender (right) receives an inscribed Dartington jug from Commodore Steve Biddle.

because of work commitments. Amanda has done wonderful work in promoting cadet sailing over the past three years and will continue to oversee cadet activities.

Club Commodore Steve Biddle thanked everyone for their service and commitment, pointing out that the various reports presented to the AGM showed that the Club was in great shape.

Over 700 members enjoy marvellous facilities to support their activities on the water, and the Club is proving to be a great asset in the local community. Wendy Cummins presented a certificate to the Club for raising over £1500 for the RNLI during the year.

The Commodore presented an inscribed Dartington glass jug on behalf of all members for Brian's excellent work over the years.

Richard Mayo was presented with the Lloyds Bank Trophy, awarded by the Commodore for his dedicated efforts in promoting activities on the water over the past eight years.

Brian Lavender, Noel Coplestone and David Mettam were all appointed Honorary Life Vice Presidents for rendering outstanding service to the Club.

More information about the Club can be found on the recently updated website www.axeyachtclub.co.uk.

New members are welcome and should contact the Membership Secretary, Nick Jolly, on 01297 35500 or by e-mail on: info@axeyachtclub.co.uk



◆ **GREAT EFFORT:** Richard Mayo with the Lloyds Bank Trophy for outstanding service to the Club

football coronation cup final preview

Too close to call as pair clash again

NEXT Monday's (December 28th) Perry Street & District League Coronation Cup Final has a lot to live up to as PERRY STREET and SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP locks horns with silverware at stake for the second time this season writes Howard Larcombe.

The pair clashed back in October in the Chard Hospital Cup Final under the floodlights at Chard Town's Zembard Lane ground.

On that occasion a decent sized crowd saw Street hold the initiative as they led through a double from Man-of-the-Match Dan Collins.

But the 'Old Monsters' bared their teeth and battled back to force extra time with strikes from Kris Hastings and a Ben Pitman penalty.

And Aggie Smith's team clinched the win in the dying embers of the extra half-hour when George Pugson curled home a stunning shot from the corner of the penalty area.

Shepton are of course the current holders of the Coronation Cup having once again come from behind to beat Combe Reserves 6-3 in last season's final at Millwey Rise.

A win on Saturday will take them to just one behind record holders Lyme Regis' tally of nine.

The 'Mothers' will have other ideas as they look to get their name on the 63-year-old trophy for just the third time – the last occasion being way back in 1970-71 when they defeated Drimpton 2-0.

sailing lyme regis

Vander Borgh at the double

AFTER two weeks when racing had to be cancelled due to gale force winds last Sunday's conditions were in direct contrast, force; 1 to 2 and slight sea state and unseasonably warm air temperatures.

Fourteen dinghies took part and all but two completed both races, which were races Five and Six of the Winter series.

Race officer Colin Walters had to restart race Five due to failure of the timing clock. Jeff Vander Brought in his K1 worked his way up through the fleet to win, closely followed by Jerry Rook and Chet Gillespie, then Hugh Duncan and Hilton Davis both in K1s.

Youth member Max Helston sailed his Laser Radial admirably to gain 5th place, beating Dan Alsop into 6th.

But in race Six, with the wind settling to a steady force 2, Dave Stubbs was a close contender as Vander Brought held first place again.

First time on the water was Fraser Earle in his new Contender, a single hander where the helm also trapezes.

He did well to finish both races as he familiarised himself with a challenging dinghy.



◆ **FRASER Earle launches his Contender for the first time**

cribbage

LYME REGIS Results - December 14th: Axminster Inn 4 Old Inn Kiln 1, Stepps 4 Royal Oak 1, Lamb Swans 2 Nags Head 3, Beer Club 1 Talbot Arms 4, Gerrard Arms 2 Axminster Con Club 3, Ship Inn 4 New Inn Kiln 1.

Beer League: Axminster Inn 2 Old Inn Kiln 1, Stepps 4 Royal Oak 3, Lamb Swans 1 Nags Head 2, Beer Club 1 Talbot Arms 2, Gerrard Arms 1 Axminster Con Club 2, Ship Inn 1 New Inn Kiln 2.

League table	Pld	Pts
Gerrard Arms	.....13	41
Stepps	.....13	37
New Inn Kiln A	.....14	37
Nags Head	.....14	36
Lamb Swans	.....13	36
Royal Oak	.....14	36
Axminster Cons	.....13	34
Beer Club	.....14	34
Ship Inn	.....12	33
Old Inn Kiln	.....13	30
New Inn Kiln B	.....13	26
Axminster Inn	.....12	25
Talbot Arms	.....14	25

Beer League	Pld	Pts
Royal Oak	.....14	27
New Inn Kiln A	.....14	25
Axminster Cons	.....13	24
Talbot Arms	.....14	23
Gerrard Arms	.....13	21
Lamb Swans	.....13	20
Nags Head	.....14	20
Stepps	.....13	18
Ship Inn LR	.....12	17
New Inn Kiln B	.....13	17
Old Inn Kiln	.....13	17
Axminster Inn	.....12	15
Beer Club	.....14	14

bowls

Friendly tied

HONITON men entertained the President of DEVON COUNTY INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION and his four-rink team of county bowlers last week.

The match ended in a friendly 66-66 draw, Honiton top rink: Barrie Singleton, Tony Williams, Jimmy Smith & Terry House 20-13.

In the one mixed friendly Honiton lost 56-65 to EXONIA 56-65, best winning triple: Di Hawkins, Ted Cox & Jimmy Smith 18-14.

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Carnell hat-trick helps Holyrood to regional title

THE Holyrood Adademy Year 11 boys rugby team recently defeated Huish Episcopi Academy 47-21 at Chard Rugby Club to lift the South Somerset State Schools Cup.

The victory was made all the more spectacular as the very same opposition had previously thrashed Holyrood 50-0 last year.

On a blustery night, Holyrood dominated possession from start to finish.

The forwards, who were spearheaded by Silas Vickery, Liam Bradley and Noah Carnell, were outstanding which laid the platform for Jacob Mee, Harry Cleal and Ben Fenton to run riot in midfield.

Noah Carnell raced over for three individual tries with Mee, Bradley, Vickery and Ben Fenton grabbing the others.

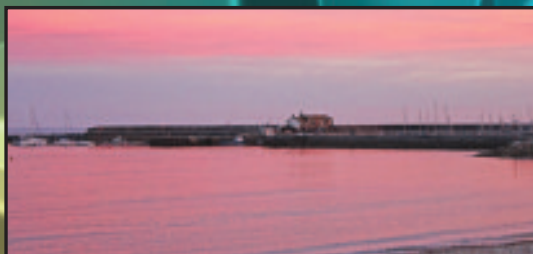
Man of the Match was scrum half Liam Blackmore, who was outstanding all evening.



◆ TOP TEAM: The Holyrood Academy year 11 boys rugby team which won the South Somerset States School Cup

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